AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. - 85. (withdrawn).

86. (currently amended): A method of acquiring a processed frame by performing image processing on a desired frame sampled from a video image, said method comprising the steps of:

computing a similarity between said desired frame and at least one frame which is temporally before and one frame which is temporally after said desired frame; and

acquiring said processed frame by obtaining a weighting coefficient whose value increases or decreases in correspondence to ~~a reference level of the~~ said similarity, then weighting said at least one frame with said weighting coefficient, and synthesizing said weighted frame and said desired frame; wherein

said desired frame is partitioned into a plurality of areas; and wherein

~~a motion vector~~ motion is computed for each area of said plurality of areas;

said areas are grouped into a plurality of subject areas based on said motion ~~vector~~ of each area of said plurality of areas;

said similarity is computed for each of corresponding subject areas in said at least one frame which correspond to said plurality of subject areas; and

said processed frame is acquired by obtaining weighting coefficients whose values increase or decrease in correspondence to a reference level of the similarity, then weighting said

corresponding subject areas of said at least one frame with said weighting coefficients, and synthesizing said weighted subject areas and said plurality of subject areas.

87. - 88. (canceled).

89. (currently amended): An image processor for acquiring a processed frame by performing image processing on a desired frame sampled from a video image, said image processor comprising:

similarity computation means for computing a similarity between said desired frame and at least one frame which is temporally before or after said desired frame; and

synthesis means for obtaining a weighting coefficient whose value increases or decreases in correspondence to a reference level of the said similarity, then weighting said at least one frame with said weighting coefficient, and synthesizing said weighted frame and said desired frame into said processed frame; wherein

said similarity computation means partitions said desired frame into a plurality of areas; and wherein

a moving vectormotion computation means computes a moving vectormotion for each area of said plurality of areas;

said similarity computation means groups said areas into a plurality of subject areas based on said motion vector of each area of said plurality of areas, and computes said similarity for each of corresponding subject areas in said at least one frame which correspond to said plurality of subject areas; and

said synthesis means obtains weighting coefficients whose values increase or decrease in

correspondence to a reference level of the~~said~~ similarity, then weights said corresponding subject

areas of said at least one frame with said weighting coefficients, and synthesizes said weighted

subject areas and said plurality of subject areas into said processed frame.

90. - 91. (canceled).

92. (currently amended): A computer readable medium storing a computer program

which, when executed by a computer processor, causes the computer processor to perform an

image processing method of acquiring a processed frame by performing image processing on a

desired frame sampled from a video image, the method comprising:

computing a similarity between said desired frame and at least one frame which is

temporally before and one frame which is temporally after said desired frame; and

obtaining a weighting coefficient whose value increases or decreases in correspondence

to ~~a reference level of the~~ said similarity, then weighting said at least one frame with said

weighting coefficient, and synthesizing said weighted frame and said desired frame into said

processed frame; wherein

said computing a similarity between said desired frame and at least one frame which is

temporally before and one frame which is temporally after said desired frame comprises

partitioning said desired frame into a plurality of areas, computing ~~a moving vector~~motion for

each area of said plurality of areas, grouping said areas into a plurality of subject areas based on

said motion ~~vector~~ of each area of said plurality of areas, and computing said similarity for each

of corresponding subject areas in said at least one frame which correspond to said plurality of subject areas; and

said obtaining a weighting coefficient whose value increases or decreases in correspondence to ~~a reference level of the~~ said similarity, then weighting said at least one frame with said weighting coefficient, and synthesizing said weighted frame and said desired frame into said processed frame comprises obtaining weighting coefficients whose values increase or decrease in correspondence to ~~a reference level of the~~said similarity, then weighting said corresponding subject areas of said at least one frame with said weighting coefficients, and synthesizing said weighted subject areas and said plurality of subject areas into said processed frame.

93. - 97. (canceled).

98. (currently amended): The image processor as set forth in claim 89, ~~further comprising:~~wherein

said similarity computation means ~~for computing a~~ computes said similarity between said desired frame and at least one frame which is temporally before and one frame which is temporally after said desired frame~~; and~~

~~synthesis means for obtaining a weighting coefficient whose value increases or decreases in correspondence to a reference level of the similarity, then weighting said at least one frame with said weighting coefficient, and synthesizing said weighted frame and said desired frame into said processed frame.~~

99. (currently amended): The synthesis method as set forth in claim 86, wherein

a magnitude of said motion ~~vector~~ for each area of said plurality of areas is calculated;

and

said plurality of subject areas comprises a first subject area including areas of said

plurality of areas having a motion ~~vector~~ magnitude that has increased relative to said frame

which is temporally before said desired frame, and a second subject area including areas of said

plurality of areas having a motion ~~vector~~ magnitude that has decreased relative to said frame

which is temporally before said desired frame.

100. (currently amended): The image processor as set forth in claim 89, wherein

the ~~moving vector~~ motion computation means computes a magnitude of said motion

~~vector~~ for each area of said plurality of areas; and

said plurality of subject areas comprises a first subject area including areas of said

plurality of areas having a motion ~~vector~~ magnitude that has increased relative to said frame

which is temporally before said desired frame, and a second subject area including areas of said

plurality of areas having a motion ~~vector~~ magnitude that has decreased relative to said frame

which is temporally before said desired frame.

101. (currently amended): The computer readable medium as set forth in claim 92,

further comprising computing a magnitude of said motion ~~vector~~ for each area of said plurality

of areas; wherein

said plurality of subject areas comprises a first subject area including areas of said

plurality of areas having a motion ~~vector~~ magnitude that has increased relative to said frame

which is temporally before said desired frame, and a second subject area including areas of said

plurality of areas having a motion ~~vector~~ magnitude that has decreased relative to said frame

which is temporally before said desired frame.